CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION PUBLIC FORUM

Monday, October 6, 2008
7th Floor Council Hearing Room
Council Office Building

Commission Members Present:

Staff:

Nancy Soreng, Chair

Alice Gresham Bullock, Vice-Chair

Michael Cogan

Wilbur Friedman

Mollie Habermeier

Robert Shoenberg

Judith Vandegriff

Anne Marie Vassallo

Charles Wolff

Justina Ferber, County Council Staff Marie Jean-Paul, County Council Staff

Commission Members Absent:

Karen Czapanskiy

Commission Chair Nancy Soreng opened the public forum at 7:40 p.m. The Commission held a public forum to seek comments on a variety of issues to determine if the current system of County Government adequately addresses the needs of County residents.

Specifically, the Commission requested community input on the following issues: (1) whether the Charter should be amended to allow for an Executive-nominated, Council-confirmed Inspector General; and (2) whether certain special taxing districts should be excluded from the Charter's limit on the growth of the property tax revenue to the rate of inflation. Comments on other Charter related issues were also welcome.

The following persons presented testimony:

- 1. Marvin Weinman, Montgomery County Taxpayers League
- 2. Jim Humphrey, Individual
- 3. Arnold Gordon, Civic Federation
- 4. Sheldon Fishman, Individual

Written testimony was also received from Peggy Dennis and Betty Petrides. All testimony, mailed and presented, will be made a part of the minutes.

The forum adjourned at 8:50 p.m.